

[was] not supposed to aid him but he begged so I could not refuse, took off his first aid pouch and began to dress his wound as best I could. While busy at work on him three bullets struck the ground behind us within four feet of us. I said to him 'Crawl behind me, if you can, to this hill.' While he was crawling a bullet passed through the overcoat on his pack.

"When we had routed the machine gun nest, we advanced through Busigny and came within sight of the enemy's artillery and began to fire on the fleeing enemy. While moving the artillery back as fast as they could some of the enemy's guns were firing on us at open sight in our ranks. I could see the fire belch from the mouth of the gun when it was fired in our ranks. This was just at night. Orders came to dig in and prepare for the night. About six o'clock in the morning of the 10th, a barrage was put down on St. Souplet and we went over the top again and drove the enemy just outside the town; advancing our line about a mile, leaving both right and left flanks open to the enemy. While driving the enemy out of the town they were firing on us from behind houses, out of windows, in church towers, from behind doors, and every place imaginable. I discovered one firing at me out of the open door in a large brick house about two hundred yards away. I took steady aim at the door and when he came to the door again I fired at him and he at me. He struck within two feet of me. I don't know how near I came to him but I did not get him. We exchanged three shots at each other and I called two other fellows and went to the place where I saw him but he had gone to the rear. Late in the afternoon a counter attack was made by the enemy but without success. We strewed the ground with German dead. While the attack was on, one of our boys ran up against five 'Jerries' in the cemetery. He shot down three of them; the other two shot him to the ground but he never stopped firing on them until they turned heels to the rear.

"The next day, October 11th, we were relieved by the 27th American Division and came out for a rest. But our rest was very short, for on the 16th we were called back to the lines, taking over the lines at the same point we had left them when relieved by the 27th Division.

"The attack began on the 17th and lasted three days, capturing several small villages and towns. We were relieved on the 20th by the British. Our company then consisted of between forty and fifty fighting men, all the others dead or wounded in hospital.

"This time we went out to Behencourt, about forty or fifty miles from the lines, to recruit and fill our ranks with new men. While out there the armistice was signed, November 11th. We never had to return to the lines again.

"After a few weeks at Behencourt our regiment moved to Beaumont. There we stayed and drilled until late in February. Then we hiked about forty miles with a pack of about seventy pounds to forwarding Camp Lemans. Here we stayed five weeks, then boarded on American box cars, sixty men to the car, and went to St. Nazaire. Here on March the 21st we embarked on the U. S. S. Huron at five o'clock and bid old France goodbye. A voyage of twelve days and we landed April 2nd at Charleston, S. C. Spent the night on board, unloaded early next morning, the 3rd, and boarded the train for Camp Jackson, the same old camp I started from. Saturday the 5th we gave a parade with fixed bayonets, steel helmets, and gas masks, at the alert position, for the benefit of the people of Columbia. After the parade the Red Cross, with the ladies of Columbia, served refreshments.

"Monday, April the 7th, 1919, I signed an honorable discharge, and reached home two days later, April 9th."